age group of 6 to 14 years are not attending schools. According to 1991 census, there were 320.41 million illiterate persons in the population aged 7 years and above, out of which 195.64 million persons were females. The reasons for this position are due to economical, social and historical facts. The Government has launched several schemes to tackle the problem of illiteracy. The details of the Schemes are available in the Annual Report of the Department laid on the Table of the House during the Budget Session and available in Parliament Library.

Internal Assessment system in schools

2145. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Group comprising representatives of Boards of School Education has asked all the 34 Boards including the Central Board of Secondary Education to experiment with system of internal assessment in schools;

(b) if so, whether the system would involve continuous comprehensive evaluation in the class rooms and measure non-scholastic achievements as well;

(c) what are the suggestions from these Boards;

(d) when Government propose to introduce the new system in the whole of the country; and

(e) whether any time limit has been laid down for this Group to submit its report to Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) The Council of Boards of School Education in India (COBSE) is a voluntary association of all the Boards of School Education in the country. The COBSE had constituted a Special Committee of its own to prepare a policy statement on Examination Reform in school, keeping in view the directives of the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 in this area of educational improvement. The NPE, 1986 stipulated adoption of certain functional measures to recast the examination system. One of such measures stipulated by the NPE is continuous and comprehensive evaluation incorporating scholastic and non-scholastic aspects. In December, 1992, the COBSE Committee prepared a draft Policy statement suggesting inter alia, some recommendations regarding continuous and comprehensive evaluation. This draft statement was accepted by the Boards in the 21st Annual General Conference of COBSE held at Bhopal from 30-1-93 to 1-2-93. The responsibility for implementation of Examination Reform measures including comprehensive and continuous evaluation of schools is on the Boards in so far as the school system respectively affiliated to each Board is concerned. The role of the Central Government is largely recommendatory and advisory in the matter.

स्कूलों में "बीमा" एक विषय के रूप में

2146. श्री अजीत पी० के० जोगी : क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) साधारण बीमा निगम ने छात्रों को रोजगार उपलब्ध कराने के उद्देश्य से कितने स्कूलों में "बीमा" को एक विषय के रूप में पढ़ाना शुरू किया है;

(ख) साधारण बीमा निगम ने इस हेतु स्कूलों का चयन करने के लिये क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किये हैं ;

(ग) ऐसे प्रत्येक स्कूल में छात्रों की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(घ) निर्धारित मार्गनिर्देशों के अनुसार इन स्कूलों में छात्रों की संख्या का पता लगाने के लिये निगम द्वारा किन नियमों का पालन किया जाता है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय (शिक्षा विभाग और संस्कृति विभाग)